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94. Sun Tracings.—For the benefit of "Young Draughtsman," who wishes to know the process of making sun tracings from drawings, I send you the following method, as practised by myself and many others in this city: For convenience in measurement the draughtsman should provide himself with a black or very dark blue bottle that will hold about twenty ounces of water, and cover it with cloth or any material that will exclude the light. Into this put $1\frac{\pi}{8}$ ounce of citrate of iron and ammonia, 11 ounce of red prussiate of potash, and fill with water. The bottle should then be put away in a dark place till the mixture is dissolved, which will be in about five hours. The paper to be printed should be coated evenly on one side with the mixture, and allowed to dry, when it will be ready for use. The drawings to be copied should be made on transparent tracing cloth, and drawn distinctly with very black ink. The prepared paper is then laid on a flat, smooth surface, with the drawing spread smoothly over it, and both covered with a piece of plate glass and exposed to the sun for ten or fifteen minutes. The prepared paper is then removed and washed with clean water till the lines of the drawing appear perfectly white.—J. M. D.

PIANO. — A writer has taken the trouble to give the actual material used in constructing a piano-forte. In every instrument there are fifteen kinds of wood-viz., pine, maple, spruce, cherry, walnut, whitewood, apple, basswood, and birch, all of which are indigenous; and mahogany, ebony, holly, cedar, beech, and rosewood, from Honduras, Ceylon, England, South America, and Germany. In this combination elasticity, strength, pliability, toughness, resonance, lightness, durability, and beauty are individual qualities, and the general result is voice. There are also used of the metals iron, steel, brass, white metal, gun metal, and lead. There are in the same instrument of seven and one half octaves, when completed, 214 strings, making a total length of 787 feet of steel wire, and 500 feet of white covering Such a piano will weigh from 900 to 1000 pounds, and will last, with constant use, not abuse, fifteen or twenty years.

We see no valid reason why a skilful amateur should not be able to construct a piano. Such things have been done by amateurs,

and may be again.—ED.]

95. CAUL.—A "caul" is a piece of wood shaped so as to fit over veneering to hold it in place whilst drying. It is sometimes warmed before applying to the veneer; hence the phrase, "Caul warm or cold." The caul is held firmly on to the veneer, and

J. WILLIS, Newark; Tom Watts, Philadelphia; J. B. Hartford, and Thomas Dury, Milwaukee, are informed that Plate 48, June number of the Wood-Worker, was designed by F. W. Fieder, of this city, as was also Plate 45, in the same number, which shows two elevations for a square bay window.

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